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The Camden Confederate,

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J. T. HERSHMAN, Editor.

STRUGGLE FOR MORRIS ISLAND.

AWFUL BOMBARDMENT OF BATTERY WAGNER—
A NIGHT ASSAULT UPON OUR WORKS—
SIGNAL AND BLOODY REPULSE OF THE FOE.

Saturday last will be a day which will be forever memorable in the history of Charleston. The heavy rains had moderated the excessive heat of the preceding fortnight, the morning sky was cloudless, and the light breeze scarcely ruffled the placid waters of the harbor.

BOMBARDMENT OF BATTERY WAGNER.

About eight o'clock the desultory cannonade with which the experience of a week had made our community familiar was again heard. For nearly three hours the enemy's fire was maintained with the usual deliberation; but about eleven o'clock it was noticed that the reports came in far more rapid succession. By noon it became well understood that the foe was resolved to subject our position to an ordeal much more severe than any which, up to that time, it had encountered. At that hour, as we learn by accounts from Morris Island, the converging fire of the enemy against the battery had become truly fearful. Five Monitors, the frigate Ironsides, seven wooden gunboats, with the land batteries which the Yankees had thrown up on the lower portion of the Island, kept up a constant rain of shot and shell into our works. No less than sixty-five heavy guns and eight mortars are known to have been in play against us. At one time, so rapid was the fire, that the reports averaged twenty-seven per minute. One of the Monitors lay northeast of Battery Wagner and two to the southeast, while the others, with the Ironsides, kept a position nearly opposite the sea face of the battery. The wooden gunboats manoeuvred at some distance outside the line of "turretted monsters," relying chiefly upon their long range rifled siege guns. There were two Yankee batteries on Morris Island—one, consisting of two guns and a mortar, was located at Craig's Hill, within about eight hundred yards of our battery; the other was beyond Graham's House, and had an armament of eight rifled shell guns. It is estimated that during the day, no less than nine thousand shells were fired at the battery.

The bombardment, as viewed from eminences in the city, was a grand and terrible sight. The horizon, from Fort Moultrie to Vinegar Hill, was crowned with the shifting masses of the smoke of the conflict. Each moment the enemy's shells, sometimes singly, sometimes in clusters, could be seen bursting just above the site of Battery Wagner; but when, at intervals, the clouds of white smoke lifted for a time from the scene, the flag of the brave garrison could be seen still waving defiantly in the breeze, while with grim regularity and deliberation our guns kept replying to the foe.

For eleven consecutive hours the bombardment raged with more or less violence. About dusk the fire, which during the afternoon had been incessant (probably with the design of demoralizing our men and unfitting them for the expected night's work), began to slacken considerably, and at dark ceased almost entirely. The results, thus far, had been of a character to give us good cause for encouragement and gratulation. The damage to our battery was insignificant and of a kind easily and speedily repairable. The bombproofs had

afforded efficient protection to a large portion of the garrison, and our casualties at seven o'clock, p. m., were but four killed and fourteen wounded. Of the enemy's losses from our fire, if any, we have, of course, no trustworthy account. Fort Sumter, which bore a part in the action, sent several shells into the Craig Hill Batteries, and also into the camp of the enemy, about three and a quarter miles distant, it is believed, with good effect.

THE NIGHT ATTACK.

A few minutes before eight o'clock our pickets gave notice that the enemy, in heavy force, was moving to the assault. The attack was not unexpected, and our men, though much jaded by the fatigues and exposures of the day, sprang to their places with zeal and alacrity. The enemy advanced in two columns of about 3,000 men each, the whole under the command of Brigadier General Strong. The column which attacked our right was composed partially of negro troops, who were put in the advance. On our left, the other column advanced with spirit, under a severe fire from the Dahlgreen guns and Columbiads of Fort Sumter. As the column advanced at the double-quick, the guns of Battery Wagner also opened. When the enemy had reached a point about sixty yards distant, our infantry posted behind the parapet, poured a galling fire into the moving masses; the Yankees, nevertheless, in considerable force, succeeded in gaining the trench, and began to clamber up the sides of the battery. At this moment, Lieut. Waties, of Blake's Battery, who was in charge of two brass howitzers (belonging to a detachment of artillery under Capt. DePass, of White's Battalion) opened a raking fire which swept the stretch, playing terrific havoc in the ranks of the assailants. The howitzers had been assigned to this position which they occupied so advantageously for us, at the instance of Col. Harris, of the Engineers, all the horses belonging to the section having been put *hors du combat* during the day. Twice the enemy was driven back at this part of our works (the left), and the trench filled with the enemy's dead attests the severity of the conflict there.

On the right, the negro troops were met with a terrible cross fire of musketry. Here were posted, among other troops, the Charleston Battalion, and these gallant men behaved in a manner worthy the fame their organization had so dearly won at Secessionville. The second assault was still more desperate than the first, but it was met and recoiled in the same gallant style by the brave troops, Georgians, North Carolinians, and sons of our own city, who stood shoulder to shoulder in the fight.

In the centre of our lines a small body of the enemy succeeded in gaining a lodgment in a salient, the gun of which had been disabled. Here they maintained their position for more than an hour. A gallant but unsuccessful attempt was made to dislodge them, in which Captain Ryan fell, and it was not until a small force of Georgians had ascended the magazine and thus gained a position to command the salient that the audacious Yankees surrendered. At the time that this occurred the firing elsewhere had ceased, and the Georgians accomplished their purpose without firing a gun. The movement by which this was effected was undertaken at the suggestion of Col Harris.

THE RELATIVE LOSSES.

The fight lasted from eight until eleven p. m., and was of a desperate character throughout. The enemy's losses were very heavy. His killed and wounded must have been at least fifteen hundred. The number of his dead left on the field and buried by us yesterday exceeded six hundred. We captured over two hundred prisoners, including a few of the negro troops.

Our own losses were comparatively light. It is estimated that our killed and wounded will not exceed one hundred. Among these, however, were some valuable officers, such as Lieutenant Colonel Simkins and Captain Tatum, of the 1st S. C. Infantry, and Captain Ryan, of the Charleston Battalion, killed, and Major Ramsay, of the Charleston Battalion, severely wounded.—*Charleston Mercury*, 21st.

The New Call for troops.

The following is the proclamation of the President, extending the call under the Conscription Act, to embrace all residents of the Confederacy, between 18 and 45 years, not legally exempt. Under the terms of the proclamation and rulings of the Confederate Courts, foreigners, who are actual residents, will be called upon to do military service in defence of the country in which they reside:

PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

Whereas, it is provided by an act of Congress, entitled "an act to further provide for the public defence," approved on the 16th day of April, 1863, and by another act of Congress approved on the 27th September, 1862, entitled "an act to amend an act entitled and act to provide further for the public defence, approved 16th April, 1862," that the President be authorized to call out and place in the military service of the Confederate States, for three years, unless the war shall have been sooner ended, all white men who are residents of the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, at the time the call may be made, and who are not, at such time, legally exempted from military service, or such part thereof as in his judgement may be necessary to the public defence.

And whereas, in my judgment the necessities of the public defence require that every man capable of bearing arms, between the ages aforesaid, should now be called out to do his duty in the defence of his country and in driving back the invaders now within the limits of the Confederacy:

Now, therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, do, by virtue of the powers vested in me aforesaid, call out and place in the military service of the Confederate States, all white men residents of said States between the ages of eighteen and forty five years, not legally exempted from military service; and I do hereby order and direct that all persons subject to this call and not now in the military service, do, upon being enrolled, in forthwith repair to the conscript camps established in their respective States of which they may be residents, under pain of being held and punished as deserters in the event of their failure to obey this call, as provided in said laws.

And I do further order, and direct, that the enrolling officers of the several States proceed at once to enroll all persons embraced within the terms of this proclamation, and not heretofore enrolled.

And I do further order, that it shall be lawful for any person embraced within this call to volunteer for service before enrollment, and that persons so volunteering be allowed to select the arm of service and the company which they desire to join, provided such company be deficient in the full number of men allowed by law for its organization.

Given under my hand and Seal of the Confederate States of America, at the city of [SEAL.] Richmond, this fifteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

(Signed) JEFFERSON DAVIS,

By the President:

(Signed)

J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

GENERAL GRANT.—Gen. Grant is described as about five feet nine inches high, has sandy hair and whiskers, blue eyes, a firm and determined mouth, a well-shaped nose, and a complexion that shows the effect of exposure. He prides himself on horsemanship. At the battle of Monterey he was ordered to carry an order to a point where he had to pass the fire of a battery. He put spurs to his horse, threw himself on one side, after the manner of the Indians, holding on by the horse's mane, and by one leg thrown over the cantle of the saddle, and in this position leaped a four foot wall. Gen. Grant was married soon after he left the regular army, and has now three children, one of whom, a boy, about six years old, is nearly as good a rider as his father.—*Northern paper*.

Latest from the United States—Great Riot in New York.

RICHMOND, July 17.—Northern dates of July 15 have just been received. The *Herald* of the 14th contains the particulars of a great riot under displayed captions, occupying nearly a column, as follows: "The Draft—Tremendous Excitement in the City—Popular Opposition to the enforcement of Conscription—The Enrolling Officers of the 8th District Demolished—Two Whole Blocks on Third Avenue, near Broadway, Burned—The Military Ordered Out—Several Citizens and Soldiers Killed—Arrival of the Police on the Ground—Another Attack on the Crowd—The Police Dispersed, Some Killed, Others Badly Beaten—Superintendent. Kennedy Severely Wounded—An Armory on Second Avenue Destroyed—Raid on the Negroes—Colored Orphan Asylum Laid in Ashes—The Bull's Head Hotel Destroyed—Two Mansions in Lexington Avenue Sacked—The *Tribune* Office Attacked—Repulse of the Assailant by the Police—A Negro Hanged, etc., etc.

The *Herald's* summary says that at one time the number of people assembled on the spot was from 20,000 to 50,000. Affairs assumed a serious look; several buildings were destroyed, many lives lost, and several of the citizens and soldiers and police were wounded. Private houses, in not a few instances, were broken open and despoiled. The *N. Y. Times* of the 15th, gives an account of the progress of the riot on the preceding day. It says that a vastly larger number were engaged than on Monday, and the spectators increased also by many thousands. Several encounters took place between the mob, the Police and the military. A large number of the rioters were killed. Col. O'Brien, of the 11th New York, who commanded a portion of the forces, was beaten to death by the crowd and then hung. The streets were barricaded, buildings burned, stores sacked, and private dwellings plundered. All the large manufacturing establishments were closed, and every branch of business suspended. Gov. Seymour arrived from Albany, and addressed the crowd from the steps of the City Hall. He announced that he had sent to Washington to ask the Government to stop the draft in the city for the present. Subsequently he issued a proclamation declaring the city and the county in a state of insurrection.

A despatch from Springfield, Mass., July 14, says: "A riot has broken out amongst the Hartford troops, sent to protect the Arsenal. Considerable excitement exist in the city."

Two gentlemen on Thursday took a hack for Secessionville, and were charged \$40 for the trip, or \$20 each, which they paid. The fact reached an officer on duty, near Secessionville and the hack driver, who was congratulating himself on driving a good bargain, was impressed into service. The example should be followed in other cases. We need drivers for ambulances, and Quartermaster's wagons, and other purposes, and good use should be made of the extortioners who have been and are exacting outrageous prices from the necessities or ignorance of strangers. Any soldiers or others who suffer such extortion should report the facts promptly.—*Charleston Courier*.

News from Richmond.

RICHMOND, July 19.—Nothing of importance has transpired to-day. The chief topic of talk is the arrest of Mrs. Allen, wife of Mr. Patterson Allen, on a charge of communicating information to the enemy. The accused is a native of Ohio, and became united by marriage (in Europe) with one of the most wealthy and respectable families of Richmond. Letters written by her, to be forwarded by blockade runners, constitute the evidence of her guilt.

An officer from the Valley this evening states that Mead's army is still in Maryland. The Yankee cavalry advanced on the 18th from Williamsport to within four miles of Martinsburg.